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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/073,110	02/12/2002	Edward McGugan	WH 10 921US	3703

7590 10/16/2003

BLAKE,CASSELS & GRAYDON LLP
PER CHRISTOPHER N. HUNTER
BOX 25, COMMERCE COURT WEST
199 BAY STREET
TORONTO, ON M5L1A9
CANADA

EXAMINER

PECHHOLD, ALEXANDRA K

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3671

DATE MAILED: 10/16/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/073,110

Applicant(s)

MCGUGAN, EDWARD

Examiner

Alexandra K Pechhold

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 August 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-13, 15 and 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. **Claims 11-13, 15, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Atherton et al (US 4,037,670).**

Regarding claim 11, Atherton discloses a bearing holder seen as bracket (61) in Fig. 3, a removable bearing received in the holder seen as clamp shoe (63) in Fig. 3, and at least one adjustment mechanism seen as the hydraulic ram (67) in Fig. 3. The end of the hydraulic ram (67) is received in the bracket (61) as illustrated in Fig. 3, and acting on the rear face of the clamp shoe (63). The hydraulic ram (67) includes at least one short stroke hydraulic cylinder seen as cylinder (68). The hydraulic ram (67) has at least one fitting disclosed as valve (89) (Col 5, lines 12-35).

Regarding claim 12, Atherton illustrates a U-shaped channel in Fig. 3, since the bracket (61) is U-shaped.

Regarding claim 13, Atherton discloses that ordinarily a second clamp mechanism (not shown) is mounted to the outside of the left hand support arm (32) and of course both of the clamp mechanisms have their hydraulic rams (67) (Col 5, lines 58-66).

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Regarding claim 15, the bracket (61) of Atherton must have a recess, since it has room to receive the piston rod (72) therethrough as shown in Fig. 3.

Regarding claim 16, the clamp shoe (63) and bracket (61) of Atherton cooperate to generally surround the piston rod (72) on the hydraulic ram (67) as depicted in Fig. 3, while exposing a exposing a rear surface of the piston rod (72) through a port in the bracket (61).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claim 14 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 8/29/03 with respect to the Atherton patent have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Regarding the rejection of claim 11 using the Atherton Patent, the applicant argues that Atherton does not disclose that the hydraulic ram is received in the bracket, and Atherton does not disclose that the hydraulic ram acts on the rear face of the clamp shoe. The portion of the claim 11 being addressed here is "a bearing holder, a removable bearing received in said holder and at least one adjustment mechanism for varying the position of said bearing in said holder, said adjustment mechanism being received in said holder and acting on a rear face of said bearing...". In response to applicant's arguments, the Examiner would like to

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point at pertinent passages in Atherton. In column 4, lines 37-39, Atherton discloses "a clam shoe, indicated generally at 63, which is mounted for sliding movement in the bracket 61". Therefore, the removable bearing seen as clamp shoe (63) is indeed received in the holder seen as bracket (61). And since the adjustment mechanism seen as the hydraulic ram (67) is attached to the clamp shoe (63) which is mounted in the bracket (61), the hydraulic ram (67) is in fact being received in the bracket (61), though indirectly by way of the clamp shoe (63). Atherton also states in column 4, lines 46-48 that the piston (71) has a piston rod (72) pivotally connected to the clamp shoe (63) at (73). This pivotal connection (73) to the clamp shoe (73) can be viewed as extending from the rear of the clamp shoe (63) if you look at Fig. 3 and call that part the face of the clamp shoe.

6. Applicant's arguments filed 8/29/03 with respect to the Hart patent are persuasive.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexandra Pechhold whose telephone number is (703) 305-0870. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs. from 8:00am to 5:30pm and alternating Fridays from 8:00am to 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas B. Will, can be reached on (703)308-3870. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3597.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.



Thomas B. Will
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3600

AKP
10/8/03